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Professor Watson held many offices in connection with various engineering Congresses, among which were the Vienna Exposition of 1873, and the Paris Exposition of 1878. He was Honorary President of the Paris Congress of Architects and Vice President of the International Congress of Hygiene in 1878 and Honorary President of the Engineering Section of the French Association for the Advancement of Science for several terms. He was a member of the French Society of Civil Engineers, the French National Academy of Cherbourg, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and various other scientific and engineering organizations.

He was the author of several works on engineering subjects and of many technical papers.

CHARLES R. CROSS.

JAMES CLARKE WHITE (1833-1916)

Fellow in Class II, Section 3, 1866.

Dr. White was of Scotch-Irish stock, founders of Londonderry, New Hampshire, some of whom, moving to the Maine coast and mindful of their origin, called their place of settlement Belfast, another important Ulster town. Here, in 1833, our friend was born. One would not suspect that one of his great grandmothers was a Viennese, so characteristically Scotch-Irish were his qualities. It is perhaps well that he was one of a family of seven children, an education in itself. His father was shipbuilder, ship owner, manufacturer, bank president, a leader in all the activities of the town and the country round about.

James, fifth child and eldest son, took his A. B. at Harvard in 1853, member of a class prolific in professors, Charles W. Eliot, Justin Winsor, James Mills Pierce, Elbridge G. Cutler, Adams S. Hill, all of Harvard, John Quincy Adams, Fellow of the University. It is noteworthy that unconsciously he fitted himself during his boyhood and college years for the study of medicine. Without having decided as to his profession, he devoted himself to those preparatory studies now required of students entering that of medicine. In his undergraduate diary he wrote at the end of his junior year,—“I have done

much work outside the curriculum in natural history — botany and ornithology especially — fascinating studies under such teachers as Gray and Wyman." During vacations he shot and stuffed birds for the college Natural History Society. May 15, 1853, he wrote in his diary, "There came to me this afternoon in church the sudden conviction that I would choose medicine as my life work."

While a student in the Medical School he took special interest in chemistry, analyzed the Warren collection of urinary calculi, and wrote an essay based on that work which received the Boylston Society's prize.

In 1855 he served a year as medical house pupil at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and in August '56, went to Europe, choosing Vienna instead of Paris partly at the suggestion of Professor Calvin Ellis who had lately visited that city and recognized the advantages offered by the group of remarkable men then there active,— Oppolzer, Skoda, Rokitansky, and Hebra. In this step he showed a characteristic trait, that of doing his own thinking. Paris was then living on the medical glamour of the past. White was among the first to separate glamour from fact. After a year in Europe, a year which all who knew him are sure was filled with diligent purpose alike in purely professional and in general improvement, he settled in general practice in Boston. In dermatology and medical chemistry he had qualified himself especially. His character, his knowledge, and his readiness to use them fully wherever service could be rendered, met with prompt recognition. The memory of those Vienna days was kept alive by a club of six men who had studied there together,— Drs. Hay, H. K. Oliver, B. J. Jeffries, Hasket Derby, F. P. Sprague and J. C. White. They dined together regularly, and a photograph of the group occupied a prominent place on Dr. White's office wall.

In 1858 he was appointed instructor in chemistry and in 1866 adjunct professor thereof, often appearing in court as a medico-legal expert. He made it a rule to appear only for the government, a practice which, in combination with his obvious sincerity and competence, enhanced respect for the impartiality of his evidence. Meantime he was doing general practice and was visiting physician at the Massachusetts General Hospital, all the time increasing his knowledge, which in dermatology was greater than that of any contemporary in Boston. He soon found that there was ample exercise for his faculties in this branch alone. As thorough a man as he could not slur work, and he had to reconcile or decide between the rival claims of general practice, medical chemistry, and dermatology. To all of

these no one man, even fifty years ago could do justice. He chose dermatology, and he was appointed professor in '71, and cut himself off from all other practice. It required great courage in those days to specialize in dermatology; indeed, in anything except ophthalmology. But courage is a quality of which Dr. White had, at least, his share, and his integrity of character was so well known that all understood there was no sham in his adoption of a specialty. It seems a pity that so many present day specialists start as such, instead of growing into specialism as did White. Perhaps it is unavoidable, so intensively and extensively has knowledge opened up, above all in the last quarter of a century. The body is one, although its parts are many. General practice may be compared with the low power of the microscope. Dr. Owen Wister, of Philadelphia, remarked to the writer many years ago that "it takes a mighty big man to be a specialist." Dr. White was not what his great teacher, Hebra, used to call a "specialist by the grace of God." His specialism was based on a wide, general experience.

For a brief time he had a ward for skin cases at the Hospital, and toward the latter part of his life, a few beds for such cases. He built up a large out-patient clinic, frequented by many attracted by his reputation rather than that of the Hospital.

As a teacher, he was clear, practical, concise, convincing.

In the Faculty of the Harvard Medical School he rendered great service as a protagonist in the reform of Medical education in which Harvard led the van. It was not only in the Faculty that Dr. White pleaded the cause of improvement in medical education. It was the subject of his address opening the winter course of lectures in 1870, and again in his anniversary oration before the Massachusetts Medical Society, 1878.

He was one of the founders of the Boston Society of Natural History, serving as its curator of comparative anatomy for ten years. He was an original member and first President of the American Dermatological Association, and a very constant attendant and active participant in its meetings. He was again its President twenty years later. Proof of the recognition of his services and attainments is found in the fact that he was President of the International Dermatological Congress held in New York in 1907. In the Massachusetts Medical Society he was Anniversary Chairman, Orator, and President. He was for some years Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. His contributions to literature were mainly papers, especially on subjects related to diseases of the skin.

His book on "Dermatitis Venenata," published in 1887, covered ground hitherto but little cultivated.

After his retirement from the Hospital and Medical School, he published privately "Sketches from my Life," containing his diaries while at Cambridge and in the Medical School. He also printed privately a sketch of the Clarke-White family.

He was a methodical and very industrious man, well read generally, a connoisseur in food, wine, and china. Rarely sleeping after six, he read for an hour before rising. Every summer he made a list of birds seen, and, during a visit to the writer in the Adirondacks, a list of all the berry bearing plants he encountered in the woods.

The last years of his life he passed the months of June to October at Islesboro in Penobscot Bay. His white house was on the crest of a ridge one hundred feet above the water, and contained collections of books, china, furniture, and pictures, which gave him great enjoyment, alike in collecting and in owning. The cupola, to which he liked to lead the way, commanded both east and west bays, and more than twenty towns, among them Belfast, his birthplace, some ten miles away. On his west porch he passed much time, delighting in the everchanging views of the Camden Hills, and the activities of Gilkey Harbor. No yacht entered or left unnoted by him. Many friends will cherish many memories of this porch, and regret that memories alone remain for them.

Of sentiment he rarely talked, but he had it abundantly.

Some we call good are so negatively, rather than positively. Not so Dr. White. Virile, fearless, aggressive, he was a good fighting man, good man of medicine, good citizen, good friend. An unusual degree of these by no means synonymous forms of goodness was happily and rarely blended in him.

He was a knight, *sans peur et sans reproche*. In life he stood for all that is best. Is there any better preparation for death, anything which one of us could more wish said of him? Let us honor him by striving to follow his example.

F. C. SHATTUCK.